

January 14, 2010

WASHINGTON, DC -U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri was in Seneca County today to discuss legislation he introduced in Congress to eliminate the cost-sharing requirements for Economic Development Administration grants to redevelop former military facilities. Arcuri hopes that this legislation will benefit the Seneca County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) in attracting new businesses to the former Seneca Army Depot.

"Redeveloping the Depot is critical to economic growth in Seneca County," **Arcuri said.** "Working with local officials, I will continue to push the necessary legislation and funding initiatives on the federal level to bring new businesses and jobs to the Depot. I look forward to this project coming together and serving as a major economic engine for the entire region."

"Congressman Arcuri is an example of a federal legislator that was able to immediately understand and embrace our vision for the former Seneca Army Depot," **Seneca County IDA President Bob Aronson said.**

"This grant and bill are tangible examples of his ability to make this vision happen. We are grateful for his efforts and look forward to developing the collaborative relationship that is taking shape here."

Arcuri's bill, H.R. 4294, would allow local governments and redevelopment agencies easier access to Federal funds to redevelop former military sites. Typically, local governments are required to contribute thirty to fifty percent of a project's cost. Current law allows that percentage to be reduced, but only if the municipality can show that it has "exhausted the effective taxing and borrowing capacity." Arcuri's bill would automatically eliminate these cost-sharing requirements for eligible projects in those communities, allowing project sponsors to know that no matching funds will be required when they apply for funding.

Arcuri was also able to secure federal funding for fiscal year 2010 for the Seneca Army Depot project in the amount of \$200,000 for the Seneca County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) which will be used to demolish two buildings that are currently hampering potential future development at the Depot airfield. These buildings are also adjacent to a parcel used by the State Police for training and pose safety concerns. This project will aid the redevelopment of the Depot and remove unsafe structures, creating approximately 10 construction jobs during the

demolition.

Arcuri also spent part of his day in Seneca County on Thursday at Mynderse Academy in Seneca Falls and Waterloo High School addressing student on current events.

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